

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
ANNUAL JOINT MEETING WITH HICKSVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, May 18th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Due to the current COVID-19 health crisis Council met at the Fire Hall due to social distancing per Governor DeWine's "Responsible Restart Ohio" guidelines. Everyone was asked to wear face coverings.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Jones. He then gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll Call was read with the following persons in attendance: Mayor Ron Jones; Council Members Larry Ridgway, Eric Bassett, Taylor Klepper, Mike Barth, Ron Beverly and Cory Wann; Administrator Kent Miller; Solicitor Troy Essex; and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; Township Trustees Zane Zeedyk, Josh Metz and John McCalla.

The Mayor reported that the Cemetery Board (Don Brown, Josh Metz, Mike Barth and Clerk Robin Bauer) have all agreed to serve for another year. Josh Metz asked for any advice about nuisance properties. Ron Beverly said he should look at both the Township ordinances and the Village ordinances to see if they have any information to offer. Troy Essex said he is aware of the problem and enforcement of the law depends on the type of nuisance. Establishment of responsibility is sometimes a problem. Truck traffic in the Township is a problem as well. Drivers are ignoring signs. No other business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Minutes from the May 4th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve with changes made as discussed, seconded by Larry Ridgway. Bassett, Barth, Ridgway, Klepper, Wann voted yes. Beverly abstained.
(Changes: remove last line under Park Director and change Taylor Klepper to Cory Wann in Fiscal Officer report.)

The list of bills to be paid was presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Cory Wann. Beverly, Klepper, Bassett, Wann, Ridgway voted yes. Barth abstained.

Boards & Commissions:

There were no meetings scheduled.

Council Committees:

The **Personnel Committee** scheduled to meet May 13th beginning at 5:30 to speak (by appointment) with any member of Police, Fire or EMS. A sign-up sheet was emailed to each department head and no one signed up.

The **Water/Sewer Committee** met May 13th to discuss upcoming projects and the effect COVID-19 may have on them.

NOTE: All committee meeting minutes are available in their entirety in the Fiscal Officer's office at 111 South Main Street, Hicksville or by email request to hixcs@defnet.com.

Administrator's Report: A written report was given to Council. It included the following:

- Hydrant flushing will occur overnight May 20th and 21st.
- The north tower will be switched to the south tower May 22nd for cathodic protection work to be done. It may cause pressure problems in some areas. The work should take about a week.
- Commodities were given out using different procedures due to the COVID-19 virus. Thanks to Nelson Hershberger for the use of his cold storage.
- A downtown tree blew down and another died of unknown causes. Once things return to normal Miller will ask the ODNR to inspect all of the trees for potential problems.

Solicitor's Report:

- Final reading of **Ordinance 2020-05** by caption only amending Section 141.16 of the Codified Ordinances establishing current rates for the Rescue Squad. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2020-06** by caption only to enter contract with API Construction and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2020-06 by caption only. Larry Ridgway made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2020-07** by caption only to enter contract with Werlor Inc. to provide refuse collection and recycling to the Village.
- First reading of **Resolution 2020-08** by caption only to enter contract with Choice One Engineering for design work for the Defiance Avenue lift station.

- *Use of the well field land needs to be decided. There are several options including bidding out to farmers, continuing with the CRP contract or pulling the land out, in part or all. And just mowing it. Essex will lay these options out with pros and cons of each so an informed decision may be made that provides the best outcome.*

Department Heads:

Police Chief: Mark Denning reported call volume was down. Once we open up they will recommence working on junk vehicles in the Village.

Fire/EMS Chief: Scott Cramer reported the loan documents for the new ambulance have been emailed to Troy Essex for approval. Beverly asked about trading in 510. Chief Cramer said the value was non-existent. The department will keep it and maybe convert it for another use. Nothing has been decided. New contracts with the Townships for Fire and EMS coverage are being written. The current contracts expire in July.

Park Director: Val Shull was absent. Council discussed opening the Park and what that will mean during this time.

- *Upon inspection by the Health Department the pool will open June 1st. The glass block wall will be finished shortly.*
- *Chief Denning asked about enforcement of guidelines once sports leagues begin. Troy Essex said any civil action would be against the owner of the ballfield land. There will be inspections and guidelines to follow for all Park activities. Everyone needs to do what is expected. Chief Denning said each Ball Association should have a plan for the Health Department to approve. Mike Barth would like the plans to be brought to council.*
- *Kent Miller is concerned about using Port-A-Johns and who is responsible for them.*
- *Eric Bassett brought up the issue of concession stands, restroom cleaning, and if there is a shield at the Pool desk.*
- *Cory Wann said the Park Board will meet Wednesday and discuss these matters.*
- *Chief Denning said he thinks there will be a meeting between the Health Department and the Ball Associations June 1st.*

Fiscal Officer Report: The following reports were submitted:

- Fund Status
- April Mayor's Court Report
- "Responsible Protocols" for getting Ohio back to work handout

Mayor's Report:

- The mayor reminded residents to complete their Census forms. They are online and only take a few minutes. The national average for completed forms is 59%, in Ohio 64% and in Hicksville 66%.
- The Memorial Day Parade has been cancelled, but there will be an 11 a.m. ceremony at the Cemetery by the American Legion.
- Income Tax returns do not have to be paid or filed until July 15th. The mayor urged all residents to file their taxes now, even if they can't pay. No payment will be expected until July 15th.
- The week of May 17-23 is National EMS Week. Thank you to our EMT's, and all our first responders.

Mike Barth thanked the Street employees for helping the school by hanging the 2020 Senior banners along the downtown street. Congratulations Seniors.

Cory Wann reminded everyone the Village-Wide Garage Sales will be held June 5th and 6th. A guideline packet will be available.

Robert Fisher asked if the village would consider spreading the fuel purchases around to all stations in town instead of exclusively at Marathon. The mayor will look into it.

Larry Ridgway made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer